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60SI01932-4

REMARKSNon-Art Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

In rejecting claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph, the Examiner states: "[c]laim 1 recites a composition featuring as one of the essential ingredients a compression set additive that is added in 'effective amount[.]' [h]owever this parameter is not defined anywhere in the specification." This rejection is respectfully traversed by reason of the facts that the specification does in fact set out functional limits for the component as it affects the resulting composition at page 5 lines 16-18 for the compression set additive and amplifies well-known teachings in the art of platinum addition cure catalyst at page 6 lines 9-17. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Art Based Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner is thanked for the conditional notice of allowability of claims 6-10, 21 and 23. Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's amendment to the claims has mooted the Examiner's art based rejection. Accordingly withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Accordingly a Notice of Allowance appears to be next in order and is respectfully solicited.

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*Mar 24, 2003*

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